Carla S. Mitchel

May 6, 1956 – December 26, 1978



Photo by Alicia Kneuss

County crash claims 2 lives

  Two young Adams county residents are dead and a third remains in grave condition at a Fort Wayne hospital today, as the result of a two-car accident which occurred some two miles northeast of Monroe late Tuesday morning.  
  Dead are Carla S. Mitchel, 22, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mitchel, route 6, Decatur, and Bradley A. Miller, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Miller, route 3, Decatur.  
  Miss Mitchel was pronounced dead at 12:45 p.m. Tuesday at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, approximately two hours after the accident, and the Miller youth died at 2:40 p.m. at the same hospital. Both young people suffered severe head injuries, along with numerous lacerations and broken bones.  
  A third person critically injured in the mishap, Sue Wies, 16, a foster daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mitchel, was listed in "very critical condition" in the intensive care unit of Lutheran Hospital, a hospital spokesman said at noon today.  
  Miss Mitchel and Miss Wies were in a family van at the time of the accident, while Miller was a passenger in a car driven by Mark Grote, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Grote, route 5, Decatur.  
  Grote, who was pinned in his car before being freed by members of the Monroe Rescue Squad, was listed in fair condition "and is resting comfortably" at the Adams County Memorial Hospital. He suffered a broken shoulder in addition to several other lesser injuries.  
  Funeral services for both accident victims, the seventh and eighth people to lose their lives in Adams County traffic accidents this year, have been scheduled for Friday morning.  
  The accident occurred at the intersection of county roads 200N and 200E - near the St. Paul's Missionary Church - some two miles northeast of Monroe when the car driven by Grote allegedly failed to stop for the stop sign while headed west on 200N.  
  The Mitchel van, headed south on 200E, struck the Grote car on the right front side. Both vehicles were considered to be total losses. The accident remains under investigation by the Adams County Sheriff's Department.  
  Three ambulances from the local hospital were dispatched to the scene of the accident, with the Mitchel and Wies girls being transported to Lutheran Hospital by the main EMS advanced life support unit. The two backup ambulances each transported one youth.  
  The Berne EMS unit came to the Decatur Hospital to cover for the northern half of the county.  
  Funeral services for Carla S. Mitchel will be held Friday at 10:30 a.m. at the Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren, with Rev. Dwight Hargett officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.  
  Friends may call at the Winteregg-Linn & Haggard Funeral Home after 7 p.m. today. The body will lie in state one hour prior to services. Preferred memorials are to the Pleasant Dale Church or the Catholic Social Services for the Elderly.  
  Carla graduated from Adams Central High School in 1974 and graduated from Manchester College in 1978. She was a graduate student at Indiana University in Indianapolis, majoring in social work.  
  Born in Decatur on May 6, 1956, she was the daughter of Robert and Patricia R. Barger-Mitchel. She was engaged to be married to Mike Campbell of Fort Wayne.  
  Surviving, in addition to the parents, are two sisters, Mrs. Jay (Angelia) Carter, Indianapolis; LeeAnn Mitchel, at home; two foster sisters, Sue Wies and Deborah Wies, both at home; three brothers, Mark R. Mitchel, Gary F. Mitchel, and Bobby L. Mitchel, all at home; and the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Mitchel, route 6, Decatur and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Barger of route 2, Decatur.  
  
Decatur Daily Democrat, Adams County, IN; December 27, 1978